



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ

London Road

Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 2DN

Tel 101 ext 62005

www.wiltshire.police.uk

disclosure@wiltshire.police.uk

Date: 2nd June 2021

Your Ref: FOI

Our Ref: FOI 2021/465

Reply contact name is: Kay Moore

Dear,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24th May 2021 concerning arrests of children aged 17 and under.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to handle all requests in a manner that is blind as to the identity and motives of the requestor. Any information released as a response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

Your request for information has now been considered and after having consulted the Performance Team - I am now able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

- 1.) How many arrests of children aged 17 years and under were made by your police force from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020?
- 2.) Please break the figures down by age (e.g. 17 years old – 105 arrests; 16 years old – 110 arrests; 15 years old – 74 arrests etc.)
- 3.) Please break the figures down by gender (e.g. Male – 402 arrests; Female – 161 arrests)
- 4.) Please break the figures down by ethnicity (e.g. White – 450 arrests; Black - 355 arrests; Asian - 165 arrests; Other – 100 arrests; Unknown or unrecorded – 25 arrests)

Our response:

1 & 2.)

Arrest Age	
10	1
11	7
12	40
13	85
14	135
15	292



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

16	305
17	396
Grand Total	1261

3.)

Gender	
F	304
M	957
Grand Total	1261

4.)

Self Defined Race	
A1. Asian - Indian	4
A2. Asian - Pakistani	8
A3. Asian - Bangladeshi	4
A9. Any other Asian background	8
B1. Black Caribbean	23
B2. Black African	19
B9. Any other Black background	30
M1. White & Black Caribbean	25
M2. White & Black African	29
M3. White & Asian	3
M9. Any other mixed background	7
NS. Not stated	268
O9. Any other ethnic group	10
W1. White British	785
W2. White Irish	11
W9. Any other white background	27
Grand Total	1261

Caveats – The data provided reflects the total number of arrests and therefore, it does not correspond to the number of individuals arrested. This is because an individual can be arrested for more than one offence at a time. For example, in some cases additional arrests may occur when the individual is already in Custody and a knife or drugs are found on them during a search, or the individual may assault a Police Officer and therefore, the individual would be further arrested for those offences. As a result, these will be counted as additional arrests. Also, just so you are aware an individual can be arrested multiple times within the time period requested.

As you are aware that an individual can be arrested on more than one occasion, out of the 1,261 arrests made in 2020, only 438 were unique. This means that within the data, there are individuals who would've been arrested multiple times.

As part of our section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance, I would like to advise you that after discussing your request with the Performance Team, it appears that the figures disclosed for previous years relating to the same request may not have been disclosed quite correctly. For previous years, it appears we have disclosed the custody numbers as opposed to the total number of arrests which is why the figures may have been lower. As a result, please see the table below which details the total number of arrests of children aged 17 years and under that have taken place between the calendar years 2015 – 2020:

Arrest Year	Number of Arrests
2015	1130
2016	1688
2017	1447
2018	1254
2019	1405
2020	1261

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely,

Kay Moore
Force Disclosure Decision Maker

Wiltshire Police offers a re-examination of your case under its review procedure.



Force Disclosure Unit

Wiltshire Police HQ, London Road, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 2DN
Telephone 101 ext 62005

Freedom of Information Request Appeals Procedure

1. Who Can Ask for a Review

Any person who has requested information from Wiltshire Police, which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, is entitled to complain and request an internal review, if they are dissatisfied with the response they received.

2. How to Request a Review

Requests for review of a Freedom of Information request must be made in writing to the:
Force Disclosure Unit
Wiltshire Police Headquarters,
London Road, Devizes,
Wiltshire,
SN10 2DN

Email at disclosure@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk.

The reference number, date of the request and details of why the review is being requested must be included. Requests for review should be brought to the attention of the Force Disclosure Unit within 20 working days of the Force's response to the original Fol request.

3. Review Procedure

Receipt of a request for review will be acknowledged in writing to include confirmation of the reasons for the review. The review will be conducted by another Decision Maker, who is independent from the original Decision Maker. The Force Disclosure Unit will set a target date for a response. The response will be made as soon as is practicable with the intention to complete the review within twenty working days. In more complex cases the review may take up to 40 working days.

The Independent Decision Maker will conduct a review of the handling of the request for information and of decisions taken, including decisions taken about where the public interest lies in respect of exempt information where applicable. The review enables a re-evaluation of the case, taking into account the matters raised by the complaint.

4. Conclusion of the Appeal

On completion of the review the Independent Decision Maker will reply to the complainant with the result of the review. If the complainant is still dissatisfied following the review they should

contact the Information Commissioner to make an appeal. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via the following details:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 700
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk